

**Calendar No. 20**

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 153**

**[Report No. 109–9]**

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a resource study of the Rim of the Valley Corridor in the State of California to evaluate alternatives for protecting the resources of the Corridor, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 25, 2005

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

FEBRUARY 23, 2005

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of February 17, 2005,  
by Mr. DOMENICI, without amendment

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**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a resource study of the Rim of the Valley Corridor in the State of California to evaluate alternatives for protecting the resources of the Corridor, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Rim of the Valley Cor-  
3 ridor Study Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) CORRIDOR.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Corridor”  
8 means the land, water, and interests of the area  
9 in the State known as the “Rim of the Valley  
10 Corridor”.

11 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “Corridor”  
12 includes the mountains surrounding the San  
13 Fernando, La Crescenta, Santa Clarita, Simi,  
14 and Conejo valleys in the State.

15 (2) RECREATION AREA.—The term “Recreation  
16 Area” means the Santa Monica Mountains National  
17 Recreation Area in the State.

18 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
19 the Secretary of the Interior.

20 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
21 of California.

22 **SEC. 3. RESOURCE STUDY OF THE RIM OF THE VALLEY**  
23 **CORRIDOR, CALIFORNIA.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a re-  
25 source study of the Corridor to evaluate various alter-  
26 natives for protecting the resources of the Corridor, in-

cluding designating all or a portion of the Corridor as a unit of the Recreation Area.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) seek to achieve the objectives of—

(A) protecting wildlife populations in the Recreation Area by preserving habitat linkages and wildlife movement corridors between large blocks of habitat in adjoining regional open space;

(B) establishing connections along the State-designated Rim of the Valley Trail System for the purposes of—

(i) creating a single contiguous Rim of the Valley Trail; and

(ii) encompassing major feeder trails connecting adjoining communities and regional transit to the Rim of the Valley Trail System;

(C) preserving recreational opportunities;

(D) facilitating access to open space for a variety of recreational users;

(E) protecting—

(i) rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species; and

1 (ii) rare or unusual plant communities  
2 and habitats;

3 (F) protecting historically significant land-  
4 scapes, districts, sites, and structures; and

5 (G) respecting the needs of communities  
6 in, or in the vicinity of, the Corridor;

7 (2) analyze the potential impact of each alter-  
8 native on staffing and other potential costs to Fed-  
9 eral, State, and local agencies and other organiza-  
10 tions; and

11 (3) analyze the potential impact that design-  
12 ating all or a portion of the Corridor as a unit of  
13 the Recreation Area would have on land in or bor-  
14 dering the area that is privately owned as of the  
15 date on which the study is conducted.

16 (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the  
17 Secretary shall consult with appropriate Federal, State,  
18 county, and local government entities.

19 (d) APPLICABLE LAW.—Section 8(c) of Public Law  
20 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)) shall apply to the conduct  
21 and completion of the study required by subsection (a).

22 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the  
24 date on which funds are first made available for the study,  
25 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy

1 and Natural Resources of the Senate and to the Com-  
2 mittee on Resources of the House of Representatives a re-  
3 port that describes the results of the study conducted  
4 under section 3.

5 (b) INCLUSION.—The report submitted under sub-  
6 section 4(a) shall include the concerns of private land-  
7 owners within the boundaries of the Recreation Area.

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